Animal Disease Traceability Forum

Take Home Messages and Concepts

- State, Tribal, and Federal animal health officials acknowledged that USDA needs to know the identity of animals moving interstate; States and Tribes need to know the identity of animals moving into their States/Tribes.

- States and Tribes will enact laws, rules and policies to protect animal agriculture and assist producers to be prepared to meet movement requirements.

- States and Tribes have suggested, and USDA has committed to, maintaining AIN, ATPS, PIN Allocator, TPRS, and the Animal Health Event Repository for use by interested jurisdictions.

- USDA commits to using clear, consistent terminology, while allowing States to use terminology appropriate to their systems.

- USDA will consider the development of a uniform CVI.

- USDA commits to supporting States and Tribes in developing messages that highlight the benefits of traceability and its role in promoting healthy animal agriculture. USDA understands that traceability is a means, not an end.

- States and Tribes suggested that USDA incorporate traceability success stories (such as scrapie) in their outreach.

- States and Tribes will accept unique, permanent, official, nationally recognized ID as defined in the CFR for the movement of animals across State and Tribal boundaries.

- There was general consensus that all livestock must be permanently identified to move across State and Tribal boundaries. A possible starting point is breeding cattle. Group/lot ID is acceptable for poultry and swine (and, in some cases, for cattle and sheep/goats of one origin).

- There was general consensus that feeder cattle will be tagged prior to their movement across State or Tribal boundaries (brite tags are acceptable); USDA has committed to providing low cost tags and will consider subsidizing additional more expensive devices.

- States and Tribes inquired whether or not rodeo cattle should receive a separate classification (some participants recommended button tags); USDA will consider this option.

- USDA suggested and there was general consensus around the idea that feeder cattle could be ID'd at a birth location or prior to or at the first point of concentration and not have their ID's listed on a health certificate if those animals stay in feeder channels.

- USDA will explore the use of cooperative agreements or the use of fee basis payments for first point tagging.

- The States and Tribes suggested the use of a consistent State/Tribal status approach (like the scapie program). USDA will consider this option.

- States and Tribes suggested full traceability for imported cattle. USDA will examine its international import regulations.

- The States and Tribes questioned whether it is necessary to maintain ID on healthy animals post mortem. USDA will consider it.

- While USDA cannot enforce State requirements at the international border, we are committed to sending appropriate import documents to the State/Tribe of destination.

- The traceability regulatory working group will evaluate whether CVI should be required for interstate movement of livestock (except where exempted by existing State or Tribe import requirements) and whether that requirement should be clearly spelled out in CFR.